

13217

# REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 28035 in R.B.

Wreck Book, p. 81/47

Date of writing this report 17th December, 1947

Vessel's Name

S.S. "Langlecrag"

of Newcastle

Tons (Gross 4909)

Built at Newcastle

When 1929

7

Casualty notice sent to Owner 8.12.47

Owner's reply 10.12.47

Owner's Name The Medomsley Steam Shipping Co. Ltd.

Address 2/3, Grosby Square, London, E.C.3

## SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Case previously before  
Classing Committee.

Date  
Last Minute

### Particulars of Classification.

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <u>T100A1</u><br><u>with fbd</u><br><u>4.47</u> | <u>TLMC 1.44</u><br><u>BS 4.47</u> |
| <u>SS No 3-1.44</u>                             | <u>TS 3.47 CL</u>                  |

Date of Casualty

15th November, 1947

Particulars of Casualty

This steamer struck a reef in high seas during heavy fog towards the eastern end of Sacred Island, Newfoundland, on the 15th November, 1947.

A boiler blew up, causing the vessel to break in two in way of the engine room. Both parts are dry at low tide and are considered a total loss.

The Owners concur.

LANGLECRAG.—St. John, N.B., Radio, Nov. 15.—Following received from Belle Isle Radio:  
At 9 40 a.m., G.M.T.: SOS from GSWY, steamer Langlecrag, aground in Belle Isle Strait, position Boat Cove.

lat. 51 30 N., long. 55 58 W. Vessel broken in two, needs assistance immediately.  
At 10 22 a.m., G.M.T.: United States coastguard cutter Duane is proceeding to assist.

Montreal, Nov. 15.—Steamer Langlecrag, Hull for Montreal in ballast, has gone aground in Boat Cove, Belle Isle Strait, and is reported to have broken in two.

Boston, Nov. 15.—Steamer Langlecrag went aground off Newfoundland early this morning in a north-east storm and later broke in two, according to Coastguard reports. Coastguard cutters Evergreen and Duane are proceeding to the scene of the wreck.—British United Press.

St. John's, N.F., Nov. 15.—Belle Isle Radio Station has reported that the master of the Langlecrag was landing his crew at a desolate spot on the coast. One member of the ship's crew was reported lost according to a radio message from her master. No salvage tugs are going to the Langlecrag because she is already considered as a total loss.—Reuter.

Boston, Nov. 15.—Survivors from steamer Langlecrag are now reported to have landed in lifeboats at Cook Harbour, a tiny fishing village on the shores of Belle Isle Strait. They landed about three miles from the scene of the wreck.—British United Press.

St. John's, N.F., Nov. 15.—The master of the steamer Fort Vercheres, which was only 72 miles from the steamer Langlecrag, was advised by the master of the wrecked ship not to attempt a rescue owing to the rough weather and dangerous coast.—Reuter.

Boston, Nov. 15.—The Coastguard Authorities report that steamer Langlecrag has broken in two in consequence of striking a reef near Cook Harbour, Belle Isle Strait. The vessel struck the reef in high seas during a heavy fog. One member of the crew was drowned, but the other 41 safely reached shore to-day in lifeboats.—Exchange Telegraph Company.

P.T.O.

RETAIN

Suggested Record

Date of Committee

Wrecked 11.47  
FEB 19 DEC 1947

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 11.47

Im.1.43.

Write Hull (spe)



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**LANGLEECRAG.**—Montreal, Nov. 15. — Steamer Langleecrag, inward bound, in ballast, reported ashore and broken in two near Boat Harbour, Cape Norman, Newfoundland. — Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Nov. 17.)

LL18.11.47

Halifax, Nov. 17. — Faint radio messages have been received from the crew of the wrecked British steamer Langleecrag, stranded somewhere along the bleak fog-bound coast of northern Newfoundland. The Belle Isle radio operator reported that by triangulation detection methods the position of the shipwrecked crew had been placed in the area of Sacred Bay. From the faint message sent by the ship's radio operator it was learned that the ship's transmitter had been salvaged from the wreck after the vessel had been abandoned.—Reuter.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 17.—Anxiety is now expressed for the crew, mostly North Countrymen, of the British steamer Langleecrag, which went aground off the northern tip of Newfoundland during a storm on Saturday morning (Nov. 15). It is 48 hours since a radio message was picked up from the crew saying "We are going ashore." So far not a trace of either the wrecked vessel or the crew has been discovered, although searches have been made by land parties, fishing boats and destroyers. Only one member of the crew, estimated to number 25, was reported lost when the Langleecrag was driven ashore. First a radio message from the ship said that she had gone aground at Boat Harbour, in Pistolet Bay. The last message broadcast by the master stated that three-quarters of the crew had been landed by lifeboat. One man had been lost but the remainder of the crew were going ashore on Saturday night. Last night fishermen from Cook Harbour and the settlement of Raleigh scoured the whole of Pistolet Bay by land and sea without finding a trace of the crew of the Langleecrag. The search extended to nearby Sacred Bay, but fishermen from the Quirpon Settlement, who covered this region in boats, returned equally unsuccessful. The whole area is isolated, rugged and sparsely settled. It is believed that the United States Coast-guard cutters Duane and Dexter are now extending their search over a wider area.—British United Press.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 17.—Residents of Ship Cove, on the Newfoundland coast, reported to-day they had seen flares during the night on Sacred Island, as rescuers were struggling through a raging storm along the Pistolet Bay shore in search of the stranded crew of the steamer Langleecrag. The weather was too stormy for rescue attempts by small boats from Ship Cove, but the agents of the owners of the Langleecrag to-day arranged for the whaler Olaf Olsen to sail from St. Anthony to rescue the stranded crew. A search party from the Grenfell Mission at St. Anthony is expected to reach the area to-day. United States Naval cutters abandoned the search when the report was received that the crew had landed.—Reuter.

**LANGLEECRAG.**—St. John's, NF., Nov. 17.—Steamer Langleecrag was first reported ashore and broken in two near Boat Harbour, which close by Cape Norman, but now thought to be ashore on Sacred Island, about 10 miles W. of Cape Bauld. Crew presumed landed at Sacred Island, as messages by their emergency wireless state that they are ashore. Two whalers are now en route to search.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Nov. 18.)

" 19/11

St. John's, NF., Nov. 17.—The location of the crew of the steamer Langleecrag has now been definitely established as on the northern end of barren, uninhabited Sacred Island, according to reports reaching St. John's, NF., to-day. The radio station at Belle Isle made contact with the shipwrecked men confirming this location.—British United Press.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 18.—The weather is still too bad for any attempts to be made to rescue the survivors of steamer Langleecrag. Whaler Olaf Olsen, which has been waiting for a break in the weather at St. Anthony, has radioed St. John's: No improvement in weather conditions. Still too stormy to leave this port or any other on north-east coast. — British United Press.

**LANGLEECRAG.**—Halifax, Nov. 18. — People living at Noddy Bay, between Quirpon and Cape Onion, northern Newfoundland, sighted the wrecked steamer Langleecrag late this afternoon during a rift in the fog. They located her towards the eastern end of Sacred Island, where the vessel's crew is marooned. Late to-night the sea was still too rough to attempt launching boats.—Reuter. (See issue of Nov. 19.)

LL20/11

St. John's, NF., Nov. 18.—Anxiety was growing here to-day for the stranded crew of the steamer Langleecrag as the survivors' radio had been silent for 24 hours after broadcasting a message which said: "Must have help in 48 hours." People on the mainland were able to see the wreck to-day. The whaler Olaf Olsen was ready to leave St. Anthony, NF., after picking up a doctor, and prospects for the rescue of the stranded men within the next seven hours appeared bright. The British motor vessel Empire MacCallum, diverted to the mile-long island by the Search and Rescue Division Unit of the Royal Canadian Air Force, was expected to arrive at dawn to-day off the rock-bound coast where the castaways are. It was hoped that the whaler would manage to pick up the men and transfer them to the Empire MacCallum, and a Canadian police cutter was lying ready to leave Halifax at any moment to take them from the Empire MacCallum and rush them to hospital. — Reuter.

London, Nov. 19.—A message received by the Lighthouse Superintendent at St. John's, NF., sent from Belle Isle radio at 1 15 p.m., G.M.T., by the master of British motor vessel Empire MacCallum stated: "Am anchored south of Sacred Isle. Will attempt to take off crew (of Langleecrag) shortly." The weather has moderated slightly, although the sea is still rough. — British United Press.

Halifax, Nov. 19.—British motor vessel Empire MacCallum reports that she has started taking on board survivors of the steamer Langleecrag from Sacred Island, off Newfoundland.—Reuter.

**LANGLEECRAG.**—London, Nov. 19.—The owners of the steamer Langleecrag have received the following message from their agents at St. John's, NF., dated to-day: Forty-one men now on board whaler Olaf Olsen, all well, due St. Anthony Bay to-night. Two seamen lost their lives when the Langleecrag went ashore. (See issue of Nov. 19.)

LL21/11

St. John's, NF., Nov. 19.—Whaler Olaf Olsen arrived at St. Anthony, NF., late to-night with the rescued crew of the steamer Langleecrag. Eight of the men needed hospital treatment.—Reuter.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 19.—A lifeboat of the motor vessel EMPIRE MACCALLUM, which was lowered to-day in an attempt to rescue the crew of the steamer Langleecrag, was smashed by heavy seas. The lifeboat became unmanageable during the attempt, and the boat's 14 occupants landed on Cape Onion, on the mainland. None of the men was hurt.—Reuter.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 19.—Coastal steamer Northern Ranger, at present stormbound, is to pick up the crew of the Langleecrag at St. Anthony, NF., and bring them to St. John's, NF., at the week-end.—Reuter.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 20.—The survivors of the steamer Langleecrag state that the vessel hit a rocky shore at 5 20 a.m. on Saturday (Nov. 15) during a dense fog, with heavy rain and zero visibility. When the vessel struck, the boiler blew up, breaking up the vessel. At daylight the master ordered the vessel to be abandoned.—Reuter.

St. John's, NF., Nov. 20.—Motor vessel EMPIRE MACCALLUM resumed her voyage to Montreal to-day, leaving behind the 14 men of her crew who were driven ashore on the north coast of Newfoundland trying to rescue the crew of the steamer Langleecrag. The master asked the ship's agent to pick up the men and send them on to Montreal.—Reuter.

**LANGLEECRAG.**—St. John's, NF., Nov. 21. —Steamer Langleecrag: Present reports indicate vessel completely broken in two and total loss, but endeavouring to ascertain full details.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Nov. 21.)

LL22/11

**LANGLEECRAG.**—St. John's, NF., Nov. 21.—Residents of northern Newfoundland have reached Sacred Island and collected personal belongings of the 41 survivors of the wrecked British steamer Langleecrag. The belongings are being sent to St. Anthony. Messrs. Furness, Withy & Co., the shipping agents, are making arrangements to send local aircraft to Cape Onion to pick up the stranded crew of the lifeboat from motor vessel EMPIRE MACCALLUM and fly them to Gander for transshipment to Montreal.—Reuter. (See issue of Nov. 22.)

" 24/11

St. John's, NF., Nov. 22.—Nine members of the crew of the motor vessel EMPIRE MACCALLUM were flown from St. Anthony to Gander Airport to-day on the first stage of their journey to Montreal. The remaining five men will be flown to Gander to-morrow.—Reuter.

**LANGLEECRAG.**—St. John's, NF., Nov. 25.—Steamer Langleecrag: Representative now reports vessel broken in two sections through engine-room, and one boiler washed ashore. Both sections of vessel dry at low tide, and considered total loss. All light supplies and equipment destroyed, lost or pilfered. Local residents will endeavour to recover three lifeboats, wireless and gyro equipment, but winches, anchors and chains will probably require special lifting equipment. Inquiring whether any local parties interested in winches, &c., if so will try to make reasonable arrangements to purchase, as is and where is.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Nov. 24.)

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